(c) Public expenditure by the Central Government on higher education during 2007-08 will depend on approval of the budgetary proposal by Parliament.

Guidelines for opening higher educational institutions

2155. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines fixed for opening higher educational institutions in the country;

(b) if educational and social backwardness of a place is one at the parameters, whether Government would consider opening one such institution of higher education at Rohru, District Shimla, Himachal Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The universities are established or incorporated by or under a Central Act, a provincial Act or a State Act. Higher Educational requirements of all regions, in order to prevent regional imbalances, is a joint ongoing responsibility of States as well as the Central Government.

(b) and (c) Central Universities have been established/Central Legislation enacted for Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura and Sikkim. There is no proposal, at present under consideration to open a Central University in Himachal Pradesh.

Reservation for OBC students

2156. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether reservation for OBC students in respect of admission to higher courses run by Central Universities has already come into force;

(b) if so, since when and upto which percentage;

(c) whether the OBC students getting admitted in regional college, affiliated to university run by any State, will get the benefit of reservation coming out in part (b) above; and